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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Virginia Historical Highway Markers Receive Virginia History Trails
Designation for the Commemorative Year**

***Designation Signage at Loving v. Virginia historical marker unveiled on Martin
Luther King, Jr. Day***

Richmond, Va. - To inaugurate the commemorative year, 37 Virginia Historical Highway Markers received a special designation from the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution. The 37 markers each received a special sign designating them as an official site on the [Virginia History Trails](#). The Virginia History Trails app contains more than 200 sites and 400 stories that explore the known, untold and under-told stories of Virginia History. The award-winning app is a useful tool to discover these stories and sites as you travel across Virginia.

On January 21, 2019, the Virginia History Trails designation sign on the Loving v. Virginia historical marker, located outside the Patrick Henry Building at 1111 E. Broad Street in Richmond, was unveiled. The Loving v. Virginia historical marker is located on the Civil Rights Trail on the Virginia History Trails. Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine, Secretary of Natural Resources Matthew Strickler, Virginia Department of Transportation Commissioner Stephen Brich and Julie Langan, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources joined American Evolution Executive Director Kathy Spangler at the unveiling.

“Virginia’s multimodal transportation system connects people and communities to jobs, education, and opportunity,” said Shannon Valentine, Secretary of Transportation. “As residents and visitors explore our beautiful Commonwealth, these historical markers help them connect to Virginia’s rich history.”

Secretary of Natural Resources Matthew Strickler stated, "The 37 historical markers that received the Virginia History Trails designation are distributed across the Commonwealth and each one is a significant part of the 400 year history of Virginia."

The list of historical markers that received the Virginia History Trails designation include:

- Popularizer of the Banjo, Appomattox County
- Saint Paul's College, Brunswick County
- Carter G. Woodson Birthplace, Buckingham County (*historical marker currently in process of being restored*)
- Lott Cary Birthplace, Charles City County
- Jack Jouett's Ride, City of Charlottesville
- Mary Randolph (9 August 1762 - 23 January 1828), Chesterfield County
- Clifton, Cumberland County
- Wendell O. Scott Sr. (1921-1990), City of Danville
- Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley (1818-1907), Dinwiddie County
- Werowocomoco, Gloucester County
- The 1936 Virginia Prison Recordings, Goochland County
- Adele Goodman Clark, Henrico County
- Battle of New Market Heights, Henrico County
- Camp Manufacturing Company, Isle of Wight County
- Eastern State Hospital, James City County
- Cockacoeske, King William County
- Headquarters of Opechancanough, King William County
- John Mercer Langston Birthplace, Louisa County
- Virginia University of Lynchburg, City of Lynchburg
- Morgan v. Virginia, Middlesex County,
- James Lafayette, New Kent County
- Francisco's Fight, Nottoway County

- Montebello, Orange County
- Free Blacks of Israel Hill, Prince Edward County
- Longwood College, Prince Edward County
- Loving v. Virginia, City of Richmond
- Friends Asylum for Colored Orphans, City of Richmond
- John Mitchell, Jr., "Fighting Editor", City of Richmond
- Freedmen's Bureau and Freedman's Bank, City of Richmond
(historical marker temporarily removed due to proximity to construction project)
- Jackson Ward, City of Richmond
- Adams - Van Lew House, City of Richmond
- The Equal Suffrage League of Virginia, City of Richmond
- Knights of the Golden Horseshoe, Rockingham County
- Dred Scott and the Blow Family, Southampton County
- Anthony Burns (1834-1862), Stafford County
- First Roman Catholic Settlement in Virginia, Stafford County
- Mary Baldwin College, City of Staunton

Virginia's [2019 Commemoration, American Evolution](#), recognizes the 400th anniversary of [pivotal 1619 Virginia events](#) that forever changed the trajectory of Virginia and America's history. These 1619 events include the First Representative Legislative Assembly in the New World, the arrival of the first recorded Africans to English North America, the recruitment of English women in significant numbers to the Virginia colony, the first official English Thanksgiving in North America and the launch of entrepreneurship and innovation in the Commonwealth.

During the 2019 commemorative year, American Evolution will host a series of [exhibitions](#) and signature [events](#), that build awareness of Virginia's role in the creation of the United States. American Evolution is committed to sharing an inclusive and authentic historical narrative that sheds light on the untold, or under-told, stories of events and people who significantly shaped 400 years of Virginia's and America's evolution. Programming inspires local, national and international engagement in the the themes of democracy, diversity and opportunity, and reinforces Virginia's leadership in education, tourism, and economic development.

For more information about American Evolution's upcoming events, programs and educational initiatives, visit AmericanEvolution2019.com. You can also connect with us through social media (@Commemorate2019), the recently-launched [Virginia History Trails mobile app](#), and [American Evolution Stories](#), the Commemoration's online storytelling platform.

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NOTE TO EDITOR: [Click here](#) to download high-resolution photographs of the other historical markers that received the Virginia History Trails designation sign.

About the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution

The 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution™, highlights events that occurred in Virginia in 1619 that continue to influence America today. Featured programs, events and legacy projects position Virginia as a leader in education, tourism and economic development. American Evolution™ commemorates the ongoing journey toward the key ideals of democracy, diversity and opportunity. Dominion Resources is an American Evolution Founding Partner and Altria Group and TowneBank are Virginia Colony Partners.